1	2	3
12.	Tamil Nadu	172
13.	Uttar Pradesh	53
14.	Orissa	175
15.	Rajasthan	52
16.	Tripura	35
17.	West Bengal	14
18.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10
19.	Daman and Diu	19
20.	Pondicherry	20
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	20
22.	Manipur	4
23.	Sikkim	7
24.	Delhi	51
25.	Kerala	73

Urea Import Contract

1579. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the urea import contract with the National Fertilizer Limited, and Turkish company Karsan Limited stands cancelled;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the advance amount paid by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b). M/s. National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) have on 6.10.96 terminated their contract with M/s. Karsan Ltd. due to the latter's failure to supply the contracted urea.

(c) The irregularities in the matter of the contract singed by M/s. National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) for supply of 2 lakh metric tonnes of urea are under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The CBI is engaged in conducting the investigation in India as also in various other countries. The Government of Switzerland has been requested to freeze the amounts available in the account of M/s. Karsan Ltd. with Pictet Bank, Geneva and any other connected accounts. The Government of Switzerland has also been requested to seize these amounts and repatriate them to India.

Custodial Deaths

1580. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "West Bengal tops in custodial deaths", appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated November 1, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the NHRC have conducted any survey to find out the exact number of custodial deaths in each of the State during the past one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy to check such deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has seen the news-item captioned "West Bengal tops in custodial deaths", appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 1.11.96.

(b) and (c). National Human Rights Commission has not conducted any survey on the custodial deaths in different States during the past one year, but has been receiving reports from DMs/SPs on incidents of custodial death, in pursuance of instructions issued by it in December 1993.

(d) Although 'Police' is a State subject, the Government of India have issued instructions/guidelines to the State Governments regarding measures to prevent custodial crimes. Detailed guidelines have been circulated from time to time to the State Governments and Union Territories regarding measures to prevent the use of questionable and coercive methods by the Police during investigations. While drawing attention to the legal safeguards, State Governments have been requested to bring to the notice of the Police Officers, the instructions contained in the Police Manual of different States regarding prohibiting or restricting use of force by the Police while effecting arrests, interrogating suspects or during any other stage of police enquiry or investigation. It was emphasised that Police personnel found guilty of using third degree method would render themselves liable to exemplary punishment. It has also emphasised that senior officers should continuously guide investigating officers during inspections and meetings and impress upon them the need for adopting correct and prescribed methods of investigation. Apart from specific guidelines, State Governments have been advised that there is a necessity to bring about qualitative change in the approach and behaviour of the Police towards the general public. Human Rights as a subject has been introduced in the curricula of several Police Training Institutes, including the premier training Institute for IPS Officers viz., the National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Based on the recommendation of the National Human Rights Commission, the Government has prepared a three tier training syllabus for the police and para-military forces officers and circulated to the State Governments and CPMFs for implementations.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Orissa

1581. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than half of the total districts of Orissa are still without any Krishi Vigyan Kendra;

(b) if so, the names of those districts;

(c) whether not a single Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been opened in the State after 1994;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to provide Krishi Vigyan Kendra in all the remaining districts of the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Krishi Vigyan Kendra have been established in 12 out of 30 districts of Orissa.

(b) The districts without KVKs are :

1. Mayurbhanj
2. Bolangir
3. Sundergarh
4. Gajapati
5. Rayagada
6. Malkangiri
7. Nowrangpur
8. Bhadrak
9. Deogarh
10. Jharsuguda
11. Jaypur
12. Jagat Singhpur
13. Khurda
14. Nayagarh
15. Baragarh
16. Boudha
17. Nowapara
18. Sonepur

(c) and (d). Indian Council of Agricultural Research could not establish more Krishi Vigyan Kendras due to paucity of funds.

(e) Planning Commission has been approached for allotment of additional funds to establish more Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

Surplus Onions and Potatoes

1582. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there have been surplus onions and potatoes in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government have released any amount to Karnataka for purchasing onions and potatoes from the farmers.

(c) if so, the details in the regard;

(d) the quantity of onions and potatoes purchased by NAFED and other Central Government agencies from Karnataka;

(e) whether the Government are also aware that though the rates of onions and potatoes being given to farmers are less the selling rates in the market are on higher side; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to stop the middlemen from making profit by cheating both the farmers and consumers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Department of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka have estimated production of onion during Kharif 1996 season to be of the order of 2,68,200 MTs with 1,25,000 MTs. marketable surplus and that of potato to be of the order of 3,50,000 MTs. with marketable surplus of 1,50,000 MTs.

(b) and (c). The Central Government has not released any amount to Government of Karnataka for purchasing onions and potatoes from the farmers.

(d) The Central Government in collaboration with Government of Karnataka implemented Market Intevention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of onions and potatoes in Karnataka for 15th October, 1996 to 15th November, 1996. Under the MIS National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited. (NAFED) as the single Central Agency has produced 156 MTs. of onion. No quantity of potato was procured under MIS.

(e) During November, 1996 in Karnataka the wholesale rates of onions are ruling in the range of Rs. 350 to 700/- for Fair Average Quality (FAQ) per Qtl. and that of potatoes between Rs. 335 to 550 per qtl. FAQ. The retail rates for onions in Karnataka are ranging between Rs. 4.00 to 7.00 per Kg. and that of potatoes between Rs. 4.50 to 7.00 per kg. Thus, the prevailing wholesale rates of both onions and potatoes are quite remunerative for the farmers as compared to the Market Intervention Prices fixed under MIS.

(f) The selling prices of perishables commodities as compared to wholesale rates are always on higher side due to various handling charges like transportation, labour charges, spoilage etc. The prevailing wholesale rates are quite favourable for the farmers and the selling prices for consumers are also reasonable as compared to wholesale prices of perishable commodities like onion and potatoes.

However, whenever the prices of onions and potatoes fall below the economic levels and the farmers are forced to resort to distress sale, the Central Government implement Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) if the concerned State Government approaches the Central Government with their proposal and is willing to share 50% losses, if any, under MIS.